

# THE AMITY TRIDENT

LXXVI-No. 8

Amity Regional High School

Woodbridge, CT 06525

June 4, 2026

## Notes of Gratitude

### Teachers Celebrated during Annual Appreciation Week

by Adelina Ahmed '27

As everyone begins to close the chapter on the 2025-2026 school year, there is an integral part of the community that deserves recognition for all they do. During the first week of May, Amity, along with the rest of the nation, celebrates Teacher Appreciation Week.

This is a time dedicated to the absolutely wonderful faculty members who display the ultimate form of generosity by sharing their knowledge with students and, in turn, contributing to the future.

For the weeks leading up to this celebration (courtesy of Student Government), students had the opportunity to handwrite thank you notes for teachers who have greatly impacted both their academic careers and personal lives.

Tony Zhang '26, president of Student Government and organizer of the event, noted, "It's always heartwarming to see the reactions on teachers' faces when we give them their cards. For me, I'm especially thankful to the handful of teachers who have made my experience at Amity so amazing. They are what I'll remember when I think of Amity."



Photo contributed by Abby Zamir '27

It is difficult to put into words just how impactful

#### Principal's Committee members paint the rock for Teacher's Appreciation Week

these teachers have been on the lives of Amity students. They are not only educators, but also role models, mentors, and support systems.

Reflecting on her experience, Julia Nickle '27 wrote in her note to a teacher: "Your energy and positive, humorous attitude in the classroom makes learning so fun and engaging. Thank you so much for everything that you do and for

always being an inspiring and supportive teacher who puts a smile on my face."

To further extend gratitude, Amity's PTSO organized a breakfast filled with treats for teachers during the week. While sustenance and words of kindness can never truly repay the priceless impact the faculty has had on students, we want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the incredible teachers at Amity.

They continuously put their all into providing us with the skills we need to become our best selves.

When asked what inspired her to become a teacher, Allyson Wuerth, a longtime AP Literature and English teacher, shared, "I wanted to share my love of literature and poetry with high school students. I also have the best students a teacher could ask for."

This sentiment reflects the passion and dedication that so many teachers bring to their classrooms every day.

Nelson Mandela once said, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world," and the students here are truly able to use their knowledge to better the world because of the immense wisdom given by teachers.

## STEAM Day Success



Photo contributed by Evan Lennon '27

### Fifth graders create paper flowers sat at the table run by La Amistad, Amity's chapter of the National Spanish Honor Society, at one of the stations set up for the annual event known as STEAM Day.

On Thursday, May 28th, fifth graders from Bethany, Woodbridge, and Orange came together here at Amity to indulge in STEAM Day, an interactive experience for young students to learn more about how Amity High School promotes STEAM fields across all subjects and classes.

At the table pictured above, students made marigold flowers out of tissue paper to represent the flower of the Day of the Dead, a culturally significant holiday in Spanish speaking countries. This table represented the intersection between art and language, helping the fifth graders to preview a future in the Spanish community.

Junior Megan Rojee was one of many students working at the

event. "It was amazing to see how interested the students were in Spanish culture," she said. "I really enjoyed running the table and the opportunity to inspire the fifth graders to continue studying Spanish in high school."

Additionally, high school groups such as AP Environmental Science and Marine Biology set up tables exploring the science of seed planting and ocean ecosystems, respectively. The younger students left with many new creations like clay seed balls for planting, ocean themed slime, and sticker mosaics.

Overall, the Amity High School Students and elementary school students alike enjoyed a day full of fun and a renewed appreciation for the STEAM field.

## AP Literature Teacher Retires

### Mrs. Chevan Leaves Lasting Impact on Students

by Sophia Tashlein '27

After almost three decades of teaching English, AP Literature teacher Julie Chevan will retire at the end of this school year, leaving behind a permanent impact on students and fellow colleagues.

Chevan began her teaching career at Amity as a student teacher in 1997, before teaching at Middletown High School, and then returning to Amity in 2001. Since then, she has become an influential presence in the English department, working

as both a teacher and department chair. Over the years, she taught many students how to read more closely and think more critically about the world around them.

In AP Literature especially, Chevan has built a class known for its rigor along with its deep dive into the world of classic texts.

"She's been an incredible teacher, and her passion for literature is so evident," said Abby Zamir '27. "She creates so much meaning through everything she pulls

Continued on page 2

## IN THIS ISSUE



Library Reno  
News, 2



Student Award  
Arts, 6



Boys Lacrosse  
Sports, 7



Ceramic College Keepers  
Features, 8

## AP Literature Teacher Retires

*Continued from page 1*

out of pieces we read through the broader issues we discuss as a class as well. She prepares us well for the AP exam too, and she will be missed.”

Ryan Leapley '27 also reflected on her impact, saying, “Mrs. Chevan led a very engaging and enriching AP Literature class, getting us more than ready for the exam, and ending her many years of teaching with an excellent finish.”

When asked what she has learned from students during her career, Chevan emphasized that teaching is about real relationships, not just lessons on paper.

She explained that every class is different, with students bringing unique experiences into the room each day.

Her perspective reflects the care she brings to her work and the understanding that students are balancing many parts of their lives beyond English class.

“All of my students are different. Something that works in one class doesn't necessarily work in another class. Some days, the energy is just low, or some days, somebody's going through something, and you can never go on automatic pilot,” she reflected.

“I've learned that I think the work I do is really important, but it's one class in the life of a very complicated life, and sometimes not doing well on something or not handing in an assignment has nothing to do with English class,” she continued.

Chevan said that one of the most rewarding parts of teaching has been seeing students make connections in literature and discover ideas for themselves.

Chevan's background in theater also formed her career. Before working as an English teacher, she studied theater and worked as a freelance costume designer. Then, at Amity, she contributed to the theater program through her costume work and support,

“Mrs. Chevan was a great teacher who taught me everything I know about sewing and costumes!” said senior Eleni Kyriakides “I am going to miss her!”

Chevan helped productions even during challenges such as the years when the auditorium was closed due to a mold infestation.

As this longtime teacher looks ahead to retirement, she plans to stay busy with volunteer work, synagogue responsibilities, and travel. Still, she said she will appreciate the energy of the classroom and the excitement of seeing students discover an admiration for literature.

Her advice to students is to “trust your own experience and your own opinion about stuff that you know. Don't let other people tell you what to read, what to think about what you're reading. In the end it's about enjoying it.”

Chevan's retirement signifies the end of an era, but her legacy will continue through the students she taught and the lessons she leaves behind.



*Photo contributed by Sarinah Zamir '27*

**Mrs. Chevan works with a student in English class last week.**

## Behind the Cover Library Reno Project Moves Forward

**by Teesha Godawat '27**

As many students may already know, the school library is about to undergo a major renovation very soon to create a new and improved space for Amity High School. The library will be modernized and will have aspects that create a more enhanced learning environment.

Although the construction process will lead to some changes for the upcoming 2026-2027 school year, accommodations for the temporary library include an effective space where students are still able to access all the resources they need.

Librarian Vicki Hulse explained, “While the library is moving to a temporary location with limited space, student resources will remain fully available. Students will still have uninterrupted access to physical books,

scheduled to officially award the contract for the construction of the library at the June 8th meeting, and the library is set to close on Wednesday, June 10th after school. This is also the last day of classes for students before Final Exams begin.

On Thursday, June 11th, materials from the library will start to be moved to the auxiliary gym to create a library-like space for students while the renovations are being completed. Construction is expected to start at the beginning of July, but there is no set date as it is dependent on the contractor's pace. The same goes for the date of completion as well.

“The timeline for the library to reopen is dependent on so many different factors that are really out of our control, so I don't feel comfortable with even estimating when that will occur. It's not a great answer—but we'll reopen next school year!” shared Hulse, excited for the new space.

Unfortunately, the class of 2027 will not be able to utilize the new library for long, but underclassmen will have the opportunity to immerse themselves into the modernized library.

Despite this, the rising seniors still express enthusiasm about this change.

“I think this is going to be an impactful and positive change for

the school. It will benefit the underclassmen tremendously by giving them more resources. This project is definitely worth the while.” said Mariha Salahuddin '27.



*Photo contributed by Silver and Petrucelli*

**An image of what the new library space will look like.**

online databases, tech checkouts, and librarian support for research, coursework, and technology assistance.”

The Board of Education is

## Environmental and Marine Career Day Inspires Students' Future Plans

**by Colton King '29**

Amity hosted their now annual Environmental and Marine Career Day fair in the hallways during lunch waves on May 1st. Event organizers Lynn Cocco, Jamie Mack, and Alison Berkes-Nork ran the fair by inviting specialists from organizations such as CT-DEEP (Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection), and NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration).

This event grabbed the interest of all students, resulting in a successful, intriguing day for all participants.

During the Environmental and Marine Career Day, students were able to freely explore the fair tables set outside the hallway of the cafeteria during SSP. This provided the opportunity for students to interact with specialists, gaining insight on the field and its job opportunities.

Ten guest speakers were present, explaining their roles in the environmental and marine

studies. One table featured hissing cockroaches, which was viewed as a massive hit. The mix of interactive activities with the specialists and models lured students into examining the fair even more.

Jamie Mack, a marine biology teacher, said, “Having exposure to different career paths might inspire students to learn more about those careers or take one of those courses related to it.”

The importance of selecting careers for one's future this early on may be challenging, but the fair really paints an idea of what some of the options are in the real world.

When asked about the objective of the fair, Cocco, the school's career counselor, responded, “What you need to do is learn what you don't know and find yourself in a place where you never knew you could be in.”

As Cocco encouraged finding oneself in a place where they would not necessarily expect, Nork added, “Students can be interested in a field but don't exactly understand what's going on, so the point of the fair expands on those depths.”

Amity offers courses and clubs focusing on marine and environmental studies. However, through the fair, students who

hosting the Environmental and Marine Career Day fair, its success has been clear. With the addition of the marine portion, the fair has sky-



*Photo contributed by Jamie Mack*

**Students interact with CTDEEP specialists.**

may not be in these courses are exposed to fascinating topics that they would otherwise have limited awareness of.

Since Amity has begun

rocketed in popularity over time.

Make sure to stop by the fair next year! With more students willing to explore the presentations, it is sure to be a blast.

*Editorial*

# Goodbye, The End Is Here

by Joy Deng '26

In January of my junior year, my English teacher Mrs. Chevan told us to write down one word we wanted to be our theme for the new year. I don't remember what I put, because I didn't intentionally live by it. I just remember that I couldn't come up with anything unique or creative that I'd actually live by. This year I kept it as simple as possible: "Happiness."

I think being truly happy and knowing what makes you happy is one of the most valuable things in life. Not just because it is silly and enjoyable, but also because in moments of happiness we reach emotional depth and accumulate personal truths. The magic we directly experience is always more powerful than abstract philosophical theories sitting in a textbook, because "only the heart's profound movement, the will's decisive commitment, can make that which is truth in general also a truth for me" (Swenson).

For me, happiness is spending time with friends on Halloween after college apps, sipping warm apple cider from big mugs with our palms because our nails are barely dry from painting them.

It is taking a walk outside in autumn and seeing bushes flaked with embers at the tips of their leaves. It is laughing in ceramics class about the particular abominations we've created on the wheel. It is the eruption of pride at being able to do something I was not able to achieve before, like solving a difficult equation or finally being able to jump and run again after physical therapy. It is putting a smile on my mother's face with a back rub, it is the quiet connection when I sit in silence with my father. It is the iridescence of human

life, the cascading rhythm of a heartbeat, the discovery that there is so much yet to learn, the feeling that I could taste a moment and it would last forever— that, to me, is happiness, and taken all together it gives me such a sense of awe.

Awe sits in the corners of silent reflection and comes across with the rushing wave of elation. Awe lingers in brush strokes and musical notes, in the creases of smile lines and creases of the sky. Awe appears in the weird and wacky— complex particles we cannot explain, cosplay outfits that took forever to make. Awe is dampened by comparison— because if this tree sampling inspires wonder and grounds you to the earth, why break that precious magic by pointing towards a taller tree?

Yes, this is another senior reflection calling for "small wonders are everywhere, you just have to look." When reading those articles, I'd always nod my head, yes of course, what idiot doesn't enjoy simple moments. Then I'd proceed to become the idiot within two months of hectic life. So, like all the others before me, I really do think it's easier said than done.

But ultimately, just let yourself be sentimental and cringe and let your jaw drop at the beauty of mundane things (I learned recently there's a reason for office chairs always having five legs). Let yourself ugly-laugh and pretty-cry. Let yourself slow down to savor small moments and speed up to lock in, but always know that you can shift gears. Lose yourself in nostalgic endings, fresh beginnings, and the haze of new horizons (I sure am already drawing up dorm decorating plans). Notice and seek out happiness with intention. You just might be in awe.

## Out of This World: The Intrepid Museum

by Harper Binford '27

Established in 1982, The Intrepid Museum, originally known as the Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum, was founded by Michael D. Piccola, and was built as a way to preserve historic World War II aircrafts, and ships. The museum is composed of fighter jets, naval vessels, aircraft carriers, and so much more. The Intrepid Museum is spanned over three decks, with mostly aircraft used by the United States Armed Forces evenly aligned over its length. Key exhibits displayed at the museum include the Space Shuttle Enterprise, the USS Growler, and an F-14 Tomcat, with each serving as the museum's most iconic features.



The museum itself serves as a floating ship silhouette which is over 900 feet long with multiple decks of exhibits stretching across its length. The inside of the museum is just as massive and alluring as the outside of it. The USS Growler was my first destination. At the exhibit, I learned that the Growler was used during the Cold War to carry nuclear missiles. The Growler was a first-generation nuclear deterrent submarine which stretched over 300 feet long and its crew consisted of over 80 men.

I was able to explore the inside of the submarine and see the living conditions the men endured. The rooms were tight and cramped, each one barely large enough for two people to comfortably fit into. It was impossible to imagine a crew of 80 living in these condi-

tions for two years.

Another astonishing feature of the museum was the Space Shuttle Pavillion. The history of this specific space shuttle was incredibly interesting to learn about. The Space Shuttle Enterprise was the first space shuttle built by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) in 1976, and although the shuttle never really went to space, it was incredibly pivotal to NASA's research of reusable spacecraft. Displayed publicly in 2012, the Intrepid Museum offers an immersive experience up close with the shuttle, where visitors can walk directly underneath and get a feel for its massive length and size. Another feature included with this

exhibit involves soundscapes where visitors are able to listen to actual recorded conversations from its past use. Not only does this exhibit provide the experience of the real life Enterprise, but it also includes engaging opportunities for the visitors to really indulge themselves in space exploration.

The Intrepid Museum is a highly informative resource for understanding the history of naval and aerospace exploration. When visiting, you are guaranteed to find interactive, immersive, and educational programs suited for everyone. Having the opportunity to go to the Intrepid Museum was an extraordinarily impressive experience I recommend to everyone.

Next time you find yourself visiting New York or eager to explore a new museum, check out the many wonders that the Intrepid Museum offers. You will not be disappointed.

# The Amity Trident

**The Amity Trident**  
 Amity Regional High School  
 25 Newton Road, Woodbridge, CT 06525  
 203-397-4830  
 amityregion5.org

**EDITORS-IN-CHIEF**

Eve Marin '27  
 Jacqueline Miller '27  
 Sarinah Zamir '27

**NEWS**

Shriya Garg '27

**OPINIONS**

Isabella Smernoff

**FEATURES**

Teesha Godawat '27

**ARTS**

Evelyn Kim '27

**SPORTS**

Rohan Hebbar '27

**SOCIAL MEDIA**

Aiza Amir '28

**FACULTY ADVISOR**

Emily Clark

**CONTRIBUTING WRITERS:** Adelina Ahmed '27, Sophia Tashlein '27, Colton King '29, Joy Deng '26, Harper Binford '27, Julian Vanderberg '29, Caroline Nichols '27, Victoria Kim '29, Andrew Emrich '28, Akshay Bulsara '26, Anika Zivojinovic '27, Melinda Sauer '27, Jack Glaser '26, Lena Neary '26

To view the newspaper online go to [www.amityregion5.org/arhs/amity-tridentent/](http://www.amityregion5.org/arhs/amity-tridentent/)

For any corrections or tips, please email, [tridentstaff@amityregion5.org](mailto:tridentstaff@amityregion5.org)

To sign up to write or take photographs for The Trident, contact the Editors-in-Chief, Mrs. Clark, or email [tridentstaff@amityregion5.org](mailto:tridentstaff@amityregion5.org)

*The Amity Trident, Amity Regional High School's monthly student newspaper, is printed by Valley Publishing, 7 Francis Street, Derby, Connecticut 06418.*

**Enjoy the  
 summer,  
 Amity!**



# That's All, Folks... So

## SORTED BY NAME

### Isabella Aldi

University of Maryland

### Aprile Allen

Albertus Magnus College

### Muhyuddin Amarou

Undeclared

### Adriel Ameti

University of South Carolina

### Aroush Amir

University of Connecticut

### Michael Anderson

New England College

### Ean Annatone

Undeclared

### Andre Ariyanayagam

Embry Riddle Aeronautical University



### Liliana Barranco

Gap Year

### Olivia Barrett

Colby-Sawyer College

### Jackson Binford

Roger Williams University

### Molly Bosma

Saint Anselm College

### William Boyle

Undeclared

### Anna Brinton

Quinnipiac University

### Kylie Brown

Rhode Island College

### Arthur Browning

Undeclared

### Akshay Bulsara

Boston University

### Maurice Byrd

Undeclared



### Alexa Calderon

Undeclared

### Rose Calhoun

University of Massachusetts Amherst

### William Cameron

University of Rhode Island

### Maybelle Caron

Quinnipiac University

### Tyler Caselli

Western New England University

### Elijah Casman

University of Connecticut

### Reese Caterbone

Salve Regina University

### Emily Cebulski

Norwich University

### Gabriela Celozzi

Florida Institute of Technology

### Angelina Charbonneau

University of Rhode Island

### Carina Chock

University of Connecticut

### Johnathan Chow

University of Connecticut

cut

### Remmy Ciambriello

Mount Holyoke College

### Jake Ciccarelli

Trade: Welding

### Vincent Clark

Undeclared

### Parker Cleveland

Undeclared

### Quin Cohen

Vermont University

### Lucas Cohen

Cornell University

### Sophie Cohen

University of St Andrews

### Isabella Cohn

University of Connecticut

### Jessica Colby

Undeclared

### Ryan Cooluris

Undeclared

### Kiefer Cooper

Undeclared

### Jake Cooper

Undeclared

### Haley Copeland

Savannah College of Art and Design

### Alyssa Cordon

Southern Connecticut State University

### Christian Costanzo

University of Alabama Huntsville

### Andrew Coyle

Undeclared

### Elizabeth Criscuolo

University of Connecticut

### Olivia Cummings

University of Connecticut

### Lucia Cusano

Gateway Community College

### Luke Cushing

Brown University



### Ansh Dahiya

University of Connecticut (Stamford)

### Ayira Daley

Suffolk University

### Samuel Del Franco

Quinnipiac University

### Daniel Del Prete

Gateway Community College

### Joy Deng

California Institute of Technology

### Aiden Derisse

Undeclared

### Claire DeRosa

Curry College

### Jack Destival

Undeclared

### Sophia Deurquiza

Undeclared

### Isabelle Deurquiza

Nichols College

### Burke Dittmann

Undeclared

### Fiona Donahue

Trinity College Dublin

### Andrew Dorais

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

### Caden Doucette

University of Delaware

### Cora Doucette

Savannah College of Art and Design

### Jocelyn Dow

Fairfield University

### Jing Xi Du

Undeclared

### Mason Duyck

apprenticeship as a line worker



### Simon Eberhart

Olin College of Engineering

### Anna Edwards

Wagner College

### Milki Ejara

Clark University

### Ethan Enos

Quinnipiac University

### Maisy Enright

University of Rhode Island

### Layla Esposito

Florida Gulf Coast University

### Justin Ewing

Undeclared



### Ella Fairty

Salve Regina University

### Janet Fan

Rice University

### Giovanna Ferraro

Undeclared

### Anna Ferreira

Gateway Community College

### Diego Florez

Undeclared

### Rebecca Forti

University of Rhode Island

### Tyler Frantz

Providence College

### Joseph Fryer

Western Connecticut State



### Joseph Gallagher

Gateway Community College

### Ansh Gangwar

University of Connecticut

### Elijah Geary

Undeclared

### Steven Genetzakis

Bentley University

### Marchello Germe

University of New Haven

### Delaney Gerrity

Quinnipiac University

### Amanda Giachino

Florida Gulf Coast University

### Gabriella Giordano

Gateway Community College

### Jack Glaser

University of Pittsburgh

### Carter Grauer

New England Institute of Technology

### Kevin Gu

Undeclared

### Max Guest

Dean College

### Alperen Gulseren

Undeclared

### Jacob Guman

University of Connecticut

### Xuanyan Guo

Pennsylvania State University

### Jacob Gurevich

Undeclared



### Phoebe Halsey

Pennsylvania State University

### Noah Halsey

New England Institute of Technology

### Haley Han

University of Connecticut

### Tristan Hansen

James Madison University

### Saifullah Haroon

Undeclared

### Zoe Haskos

Bryant University

### Jordan Hass

Syracuse University

### Kevin Haz

Southern Connecticut State University

### Jacob Hernandez

Jackson State University

### Owen Higgins

Union College

### Jesse Hoffman-Santiago

Undeclared

### Julia Hollar

Eastern Connecticut State University

### Brooke Houst

Sacred Heart University



### Orokwu Igo-Amadi

Temple University

### Dylan Indorf

Undeclared

### Roxana Ismail-Beigi

Yale University



### Andrew Jackson

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

### Amelia Jaimes

Pennsylvania State University

### Isha Jamal

Mantas Janusaitis Virginia Military Institute

### Iris Jin

University of Rhode Island



### Yahya Karout

Undeclared

### William Keenan

Brandeis University

### Avery Ketchian

University of New Hampshire

### Augustus Khan

Undeclared

### Lawrence Kibaru

University of Connecticut

### Zeynep Kilic

University of New Haven

### Kara Kim

Undeclared

### Minha Kim

Cornell University

### Chase Kinton

George Washington University

### Harel Koblentz

Western Connecticut State University

### Ori Koblentz

gap year

### Adora Koleci

Fordham University

### Jonah Konezny

Yale University



### Adrian Koola

Clark University

### Holly Kranz

Southern Connecticut State University

### Eva Kubik

Sacred Heart University

### Eleni Kyriakides

Binghamton University

### Laila Lamour

Washington and Jefferson College

### Robert Lanigan

Universal Technical Institute in Pennsylvania

### Ethan Laub

University of Colorado

# Senior Intentions 2026!

**Ryder Livigne**  
Undeclared  
**Luke Long**  
Bentley University  
**Dario Lopez Perez**  
Universidad Cardenal Herrera  
**Leyre Lopez Perez**  
Undeclared  
**Max Lorson**  
Southern Connecticut State University  
**Nicholas Lu**  
New York University  
**Joseph Luberti**  
University of Tennessee Knoxville  
**Nathaniel Luciano**  
New York University  
**Cristian Luciano**  
Saint Anselm College  
**Andriy Lukiv**  
Undeclared  
**Marlee Lyons**  
University of South Carolina



**Finn MacDaniel**  
University of New Haven  
**Ryan Madsen**  
Undeclared  
**Madelyn Maher**  
University of Hawaii  
**Salma Maklad**  
University of Connecticut  
**Zuhayr Mannan**  
Worcester Polytechnic Institute  
**Claudia Manuele**  
St. John's University  
**Anita Maranets**  
Undeclared  
**Valeria Marin Yepiz**  
Quinnipiac University  
**Zachary Marsocci**  
Norwich University  
**Braden McAnally**  
Undeclared  
**Kate McGonagle**  
Auburn University  
**Mitchell McMilleon**  
Undeclared  
**Anna McNamara**  
Quinnipiac University  
**Kayleigh McNamara**  
High Point University  
**Sarah Megyola**  
University of Connecticut  
**Mila Mejnartowicz**  
Tufts University  
**Dillar Mekael**  
Quinnipiac University  
**Shanaz Mekael**  
Quinnipiac University  
**Zachary Melchior**  
Undeclared  
**Alexandra Melingonis**  
University of Maryland  
**Juliana Menga**  
Fairfield University  
**Ashwin Menon**  
Yale University  
**Parker Meyenburg**  
University of Vermont  
**Maicon Miguel**  
Undeclared  
**Cayden Millenson**  
Western Connecticut State University

**Lilliana Miller**  
Undeclared  
**Justin Minaya**  
Georgian Court University  
**Benjamin Miranda**  
Syracuse University  
**Jacob Miranda**  
Binghamton University  
**Marcus Mizzone**  
Undeclared  
**John Mizzone**  
Undeclared  
**Alexander Molleur**  
Undeclared  
**Michael Mordecai**  
Salve Regina University  
**Skyla Moriarty**  
Temple University  
**Ryan Morrison**  
Lafayette College  
**Adrien Moyer**  
Undeclared  
**Aarya Mulmi**  
Bryant University  
**Jacob Murphy**  
Undeclared  
**Siena Murphy**  
University of South Carolina



**Alice Naing**  
Undeclared  
**Kruthinimilya Nandam**  
University of Connecticut  
**Mihir Nandy**  
Carnegie Mellon University  
**Nina Nardecchia**  
Franklin Pierce University  
**Danyal Nawaz**  
Pace University  
**Lena Neary**  
Fordham University  
**Minh Nguyen**  
University of Connecticut  
**Brandon Norton**  
Gateway Community College



**Cashlin O'Neill**  
Suffolk University  
**Joel Oh**  
University of Rochester  
**Caleb Oladele**  
Michigan State University  
**Clara Ortenzi**  
University of Connecticut



**Ryan Palmer**  
Merrimack College  
**Emilie Parker**  
Gateway Community College  
**Robert Parker**  
Undeclared  
**Olivia Parks**  
Northeastern University  
**Ronak Parmar**  
Stony Brook University  
**Arman Parvez**  
University of Connecticut  
**Shiv Patel**

Undeclared  
**Deyna Patterson**  
Southern Connecticut State University  
**James Pellegrino** Central Connecticut State University  
**Gianna Perfetto**  
Undeclared  
**Gianna Pergolotti**  
Clemson University  
**Mario Petrazzoli**  
Connecticut College  
**Viviana Pfannenbecker**  
Bentley University  
**Catalina Pinzon Perez**  
Southern Connecticut State University  
**Addyson Pivovar**  
Central Connecticut State University  
**Matthew Polinsky**  
Undeclared  
**Juliana Pratley**  
Sacred Heart University  
**Sophia Przybyloski**  
Salve Regina University  
**Joseph Puglisi**  
Springfield College  
**Lily Puglisi**  
Southern Connecticut State University



**Vikas Rajendran**  
Rutgers University  
**Arianna Ramadanov**  
Undeclared  
**Jett Ramos**  
University of Massachusetts Amherst  
**Samarth Rao**  
Purdue University  
**Sarayu Rao**  
University of Pittsburgh  
**Eliza Rathjens**  
Trinity College  
**Jake Ricciardi**  
University of Connecticut  
**Fahim Rifat**  
University of Connecticut  
**Ryan Riotto**  
College of Charleston  
**Miles Rivera**  
University of Connecticut Stamford  
**Tyler Roche**  
University of Connecticut  
**Nicholas Romanacci**  
Trinity College  
**Liam Roselle**  
University of New Haven  
**Joshua Rosewater**  
Gap year (Semester at Sea)  
**Gustavo Rostowsky**  
Undeclared  
**Taylor Russo**  
James Madison University



**Benjamin Sachar**  
Manhattan School of Music  
**Allegra Salomon**  
Naugatuck Valley Community

College  
**Mary Sampara**  
Kean University  
**Jack Satnick**  
Michigan State University  
**Dylan Schatz**  
University of Miami  
**Annabeth Schimmel**  
Western New England University  
**Eva Schmutz**  
Southern Connecticut State University  
**Arya Senejani**  
Undeclared  
**Emma Serafimova**  
Fordham University  
**Alaa Shahin**  
Undeclared  
**Noah Shanbrom**  
University of Connecticut  
**Aliza Sherman**  
Mount Holyoke College  
**Togo Shibata**  
Undeclared  
**Aditi Sidhartha**  
University of Connecticut  
**Lily Simons**  
Iona University  
**Darianna Singh**  
University of New Haven  
**Alexa Sklarz**  
Bentley University  
**Mackenzie Smith**  
High Point University  
**Jessica Smokes**  
Undeclared  
**Farzad Solati**  
Gateway Community College  
**Miles Spodick**  
Michigan State University  
**Charlotte Stannard**  
University of Michigan  
**Clyde Stolzman**  
Binghamton University  
**Jacob Storeygard**  
Dartmouth College  
**Evelyn Sun**  
Smith College  
**Madeline Sussman**  
Tulane University

**Kacee Tam**  
University of Connecticut  
**Frank Tartaglia**  
SUNY Maritime College  
**Valentine Tavenas**  
University of St Andrews  
**Gabriella Tessitore**  
Endicott College  
**Claire Theiss**  
College of William & Mary  
**Aiden Thomas**  
St. John's University  
**DJ Thomas**  
Undeclared  
**Brooklyn Tower**  
University of Mississippi  
**Adison Tower**  
University of Mississippi  
**Astoria Turner**  
Undeclared



**Addison Valenti**

Undeclared  
**Liam van Tonder**  
Yale University  
**Joseph Vatner**  
Johns Hopkins University  
**Mia Naima Vazquez**  
Undeclared  
**Troy Vendencia**  
University of Connecticut  
**Stephen Vetro**  
Undeclared



**Callum Watson**  
Undeclared  
**Blake Wegman**  
Lehigh University  
**Mingze Weng**  
Undeclared  
**Steven Weng**  
Northeastern University  
**Nicholas Westphal**  
Undeclared  
**Emily Wezenski**  
Colorado State University  
**Jack Winzer**  
Undeclared  
**Sage Wong**  
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign  
**Ada Wu**  
University of Connecticut  
**Daniel Wyn**  
Southern Connecticut State University



**Alyssa Xia**  
New York University  
**Fred Xiao**  
Cornell University

**Michael Yaari**  
Yale University  
**Kayla Youssef**  
Undeclared  
**Markiyon Yukhno**  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute



**Daniel Zaleski**  
University of New Haven  
**Oriana Zaret**  
Undeclared  
**Sujoud Zermane**  
Undeclared  
**Ivan Zhang**  
University of Connecticut  
**Tony Zhang**  
Princeton University  
**Brayden Zhang**  
Boston University  
**Zixi Zhuo**  
Stony Brook University  
**Nikolaos Zikos**  
Gateway Community College  
**Elias Zimmerman**  
Moravian University

# Check Out Some Art Events This Summer

by Julian Vanderberg '29

School is almost out, and that means summer vacation is right around the corner. Even though there won't be articles to report on them, there are still various art events going on over the summer to put on students' calendars.

Events like shows and classes for students will help keep summer fun while still learning about the arts.

## Sidewalk Studio, New Haven

Today, the Yale University Art Gallery is hosting a Sidewalk Studio. From 2:00 - 4:00 pm in front of the museum, there will be a program prompting people of all ages to make different kinds of art. It is run by Yale graduate students and is a great way for them to experience teaching art making. All are welcome and it is an exciting event for those who want to

make art or be there for the ones teaching it to get experience.



Photo contributed by Julian Vanderberg '29  
Sidewalk Studio in past years

## Arts and Humanities Program, New Haven

At the end of July, the Yale campus is hosting a program for high school students focusing on the arts and humanities. This program is a two-week-long day camp for students who want to pursue the arts and hu-

manities later in life.

It offers classes like story writing, theater prop making, analysis of historical art, and so much more. They offer this program every summer to all high school students and it's a great way to see what types of arts interest students.

## Library Art Show, Bethany

On August 29th, the Bethany Memorial Library is hosting an art show featuring many different artists and art mediums such as poetry, pottery, paintings, fiber arts, and others.

The show is an indoor event and is meant to highlight artists in the community along with artists that have been in past shows at the library.

Gayle Bogel, the co-coordinator for the event, when asked what she enjoyed about the event said, "I like the opportunity

for the library to engage with local artists to promote a sense of community."

This show is a way for the library to connect people and express a love for art.

All these events are opportunities to explore art in different mediums during the



Photo contributed by Julian Vanderberg '29  
The art show will take place at the Bethany Library.

summer. They will be engaging and worth students' time to check out.

# A Look at the Creation of a Masterpiece



by Caroline Nichols '27

Back in October, the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese (AATSP) opened entries to their annual National Poster Contest. With entries accepted from Spanish and Portuguese classes all over the nation, it is a highly competitive endeavor.

Amity's Spanish teachers submitted entries in hopes of gaining some recognition for their students. This year, a sophomore took home the title and was recognized as this year's best poster maker.

Haze Khan '28 is in Claudia Mirici's Spanish III class and the winner of this year's AATSP National Poster Contest. Responding to the theme, "Teaching in all tenses: The past, present and future of Spanish and Portuguese," Khan created an

absolute masterpiece.

The mass appreciation of this work shows exactly why Amity participates in the competition: to connect language with our passions, and language learners across the nation.

At left, an image of the artwork created by Haze Khan '28.

# A Sense of Unity in Tri-M

by Victoria Kim '29

Classical. Modern. Even rock music. These were the diverse genres of music played by the students of Amity's Tri-M at an end-of-year celebratory concert held on April 29th.

This year, there were 56 members in the Music Honors Society, including Brayden Zhang '26 and Yebon Lee '26 as president and vice president respectively.

Lisa Serio, the Amity Orchestra teacher as well as the advisor of Tri-M, said that its main purpose was to "bring music to the community and the school, and to pass on our passion to serve others."

As a group, Tri-M typically meets around once a month, where they came up with service ideas that could benefit others. During these meetings and activities, students bonded with one another while using music to connect with the broader community.

Over the past few years, the students of Tri-M have taken part in several service activities, including a visit to Coachman Square in Woodbridge

"It was a very fulfilling experience for everyone," Serio describes. "[The residents] were always so excited to see us. We really brightened their day. That's the purpose: bringing music to people and making them feel better."

She concludes that, "moving forward we are trying to come up with some other ideas about maybe reaching out further into the com-

munity and to some hospitals," and expanding their service throughout the area.

Not only was Tri-M a fun opportunity to give back to the community, but the musicians found that it helped them improve as musicians while collaborating with their peers.

Trombonist Chloe Chang '27 reflected that she "learned more about communication and the role that balance plays within each individual performance."

After a year of sharing music and serving the community, Tri-M wrapped up the year with a large concert.

"The concert's purpose was to have all of the students in Tri-M prepare a piece, to learn a piece on their own or with a group of people outside of what they are learning in school," Serio mentions.

During the performances, around twenty groups of student musicians came together to perform several works of music.

"There was a wide range of instruments and music styles across all the members, and it was really awesome to see everyone show off their skills," says Sophia Li '27, violinist and current secretary of Tri-M.

Li and Chang are continuing their passions with Tri-M by taking the roles of President and Vice President for next year.

Although elements of classical and rock could be heard throughout the performance, the students ultimately shared something greater than music—a sense of unity and connection.

# Monica Chen Wins Coveted Patricia E. Martin Art Award

by Andrew Emrich '28

Monica Chen '27 was chosen as the winner of the Patricia E. Martin Amity Art Award with her work "Between Footsteps and Sky" on Thursday, May 21. This award has been a tradition for the past 37 years, honoring Martin, a former school librarian.

It was her vision to unite the school community through the power of art in the library. Sponsored by the PTSO, this award recognizes outstanding student artwork and offers a \$100 gift in exchange for the selected piece.

Chen explained her inspiration was based on the cottage on the cover of her piano sheet music binder. "'Between Footsteps and Sky' recognizes the ordinary," she said. "There are so many things in life that we pass by and don't really notice that build up [in] everyday life, and they are all between footsteps (people) and the sky (the vastness of nature)."

"On the main house, I originally intended to have cohesive, blended walls, but the paint dried before I could blend everything together which led to a patchy effect. Despite being initially irritated by it, I realized that it actually created a nice antique effect, which eventually turned out to be an integral part of pulling the piece together," she added.

The watercolor style was a challenge for her because of the time needed for it to dry, "Getting precise, lifelike details was another challenge, as my canvas was small and the ink I used had a very tiny tip," she said.

Chen herself was surprised to win the award, understanding that there were many qualified artists at Amity who all were worthy contenders of the award.

The painting is currently on display in the

Brady Center for students and staff to admire

"It's a huge honor. To leave a permanent mark like this in a collection that spans nearly four decades is just an unbelievable privilege," Chen said. "One of the most common things I hear is 'I used to draw,' and truly, I hate how so many people abandon art as an article of the [ir] childhood and past. I hope that walking by my piece may inspire some and intrigue others; either way, I hope it motivates people to revive their passion for art and to create their own pieces."

She herself plans to keep her talent alive. Chen's next work will be even more impressive than "Between Footsteps and Sky," as it involves her breaking more boundaries.



Photo contributed by Monica Chen '27  
Monica Chen '27 holding her award-winning artwork

## Built on Brotherhood Lacrosse's Unexpected Rise

by Akshay Bulsara '26

The boys lacrosse team has had an unexpected season. Led by senior captains CJ Costanzo, Burke Lindsay, Joey Fryer, Joey Puglisi and Caden Doucette, the boys have secured a record of 10-6 with big wins against Branford High School and Xavier Highschool.

Individually, there's also a lot of talent on the team. Costanzo has achieved a record that not many



Photo contributed by @lafprodz\_

**Captain CJ Costanzo '26 runs with the ball**

achieve in their high school career.

In April, he scored his 100th career goal for Amity in the team's 16-1 victory over Westhill. When asked what the program at Amity means to him, he responded, "Amity lacrosse has shaped my whole life. The program has given me lifelong friends, teammates, and memories that I will remember forever."

It's clear that Costanzo will remember the program forever. He also plans to continue his career at the

collegiate level with plans to play for the University of Alabama Huntsville in the fall.

Other players on the team share similar experiences to Costanzo. Lindsay shared his thoughts in an interview. When asked about how the season overall has been, he said, "This year we have had doubts coming into the season about how we were going to be. We are definitely an older team with a lot of experience on varsity. We excelled way more than we thought we would. We are competing

with teams that we never thought we would be able to compete with in my entire career playing at Amity.

"It's been a great season and we are looking to keep our heads up going into the playoffs," Lindsay continued.

He also commented on the community he has built through the program, stating, "I think the best part of playing for Amity lacrosse is we are all brothers and family.

Everyone loves one another and everyone's there for each other no matter what. It's great to be out there playing with my brothers."

Senior Benjamin Miranda shared similar ideas about the team. He said, "Everyone on the team is very close with each other, and the bond that the boys have formed with each other is one of the main reasons for the team's success."

It is clear that Miranda feels the chemistry between the boys is what has led them to their unexpected season.

Beyond the medals and points, what stood out most was the team atmosphere surrounding the meet. With the competition taking place at home, the Spartans competed with an extra sense of confidence, comfortness, and excitement.

Zivojinovic reflected on the impact of hosting the meet at Amity. "Having this meet held at and run by our school just really added to the specialty and joy of winning it," she said.

Senior Isabella Aldi emphasized how every athlete contributed to the team's success throughout the day. "Our win at the Org-Jake Invitational was special because our team score reflected each athlete's individual success and the effort everyone contributed throughout the meet," Aldi said.

The positive energy extended

far beyond just individual events. Athletes consistently cheered each other on from the sidelines, celebrated personal records, and brought excitement to every track and field event.

Gabriella Bonaldo '28 described the meet as an unforgettable experience, saying, "It was very fun and exciting. There was lots of good energy and supportive teams everywhere."

The success was not limited to the girls team alone. The Boys Track and Field team also delivered strong performances throughout the invitational. Junior August Tullo placed 1st overall in the Long Jump, while Junior Amiel Louis earned 6th place in the Boys 100m.

Throughout the meet, the boys team continuously brought energy to the track, cheering on teammates and helping maintain a positive mindset that reflected the unity of the entire Spartan program.

Tullo highlighted how important the team's support system was at the meet, describing, "I believe that the team support gave us not only positive results but also just a positive experience for everyone involved."

As the outdoor season con-

## Girls Golf Swings into States after Dominant Season

by Anika Zivojinovic '27

As the girls golf team's season is soon coming to an end, the team has found overall success with almost all their matches, going into the post season with a record of 11-1 and just having won SCC's this Tuesday, May 26th.

This success has of course made the girls season very enjoyable and one to remember. When asked about the highlight of her season, Joy Kim '27 referred back to their season record.

"For me, just winning almost all of our matches so far has truly been the epitome for this season," said Kim.

She also mentioned that Senior Night has been a cherished memory. "We got to celebrate our four seniors who have all been with us on the team for a while," she added.

Their strong record not only reflects the talent each member possesses but also the commitment each athlete brings to the team regarding team chemistry and comradery. As the girls recently won the Southern Connecticut Conference (SCC) tournament, they are riding to states with grit and focus.

The girls are hoping to continue this winning momentum through strengthening their bond and also celebrating this memorable season. The success that the team

has found has not only come from its team's wins but also from the individual accomplishments each player brings to the table. Seniors Lily Simons and Molly Bosma have both had an excellent season and are committed to continue their athletic careers in college this fall.

Simons has committed to

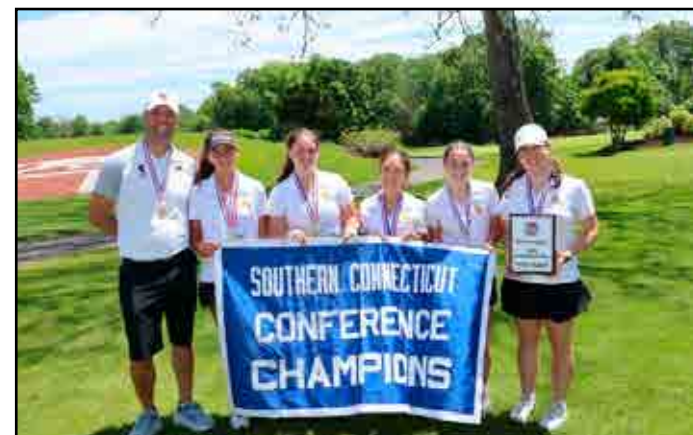


Photo contributed by @scccommissioner

**Girls Golf after winning the SCC championship**

play Division I golf at Iona University while Bosma will play Division II golf at Saint Anselm University. Both girls are very excited to continue their golf careers, with Simons stating, "I'm excited to meet so many new people and compete at the Division I level as well."

Speaking of memories, when both girls will go on to play on a new golf team in college, they will never forget the memories they have made on Amity team.

When asked about her high school golf career, Bosma responded, "Just being able to have established such great friendships with all the girls throughout the years and the team bond we have created is something that I will never forget."

While wins and titles helped define the season, the friendships, memories, and bond is what ultimately made this year so meaningful.

## Spartans Shine Once Again at Org-Jake Invitational

by Melinda Sauer '27

The Amity Girls Track and Field team proved exactly why they are one of the strongest teams in the Southern Connecticut Conference (SCC) at the annual Org-Jake Spartan Invitational on May 2. Competing against 19 other schools, the girls dominated the meet, earning first place overall with 91 points, finishing 15 points ahead of the next closest team.

Named after the legendary Amity coaches Bob Orgavan and Thom Jacobs, the Org-Jake Invitational is much more than just another meet. Held on Amity's home track, the event honors the legacy of two coaches who built generations of Spartan athletes and created a culture of excellence that still lives on today.

After a highly successful indoor season where the girls team narrowly missed winning SCC's, the Spartans entered the outdoor season determined to prove themselves once again. Throughout the year, the team faced tough competition from powerhouse SCC schools including Mercy, Hamden, Hillhouse, and Sacred Heart.

However, the Org-Jake Invitational showed just how much talent and depth this Amity roster possesses.

Several Spartans delivered standout performances throughout the meet. Junior Ava Rose jumped a 1st place finish in the Girls Triple Jump with a jump of 35-02 (35 ft. and 2 in.), while junior Anika Zivojinovic captured another 1st place finish in the Girls High Jump with a mark of 4' 10 ft.

Beyond the medals and points, what stood out most was the team atmosphere surrounding the meet. With the competition taking place at home, the Spartans competed with an extra sense of confidence, comfortness, and excitement.

Zivojinovic reflected on the impact of hosting the meet at Amity. "Having this meet held at and run by our school just really added to the specialty and joy of winning it," she said.

Senior Isabella Aldi emphasized how every athlete contributed to the team's success throughout the day. "Our win at the Org-Jake Invitational was special because our team score reflected each athlete's individual success and the effort everyone contributed throughout the meet," Aldi said.

The positive energy extended

far beyond just individual events. Athletes consistently cheered each other on from the sidelines, celebrated personal records, and brought excitement to every track and field event.

Gabriella Bonaldo '28 described the meet as an unforgettable experience, saying, "It was very fun and exciting. There was lots of good energy and supportive teams everywhere."

The success was not limited to the girls team alone. The Boys Track and Field team also delivered strong performances throughout the invitational. Junior August Tullo placed 1st overall in the Long Jump, while Junior Amiel Louis earned 6th place in the Boys 100m.

Throughout the meet, the boys team continuously brought energy to the track, cheering on teammates and helping maintain a positive mindset that reflected the unity of the entire Spartan program.

Tullo highlighted how important the team's support system was at the meet, describing, "I believe that the team support gave us not only positive results but also just a positive experience for everyone involved."

As the outdoor season con-



Photo contributed by @kc.\_photos  
**Amiel Louis gets ready to run in SCC Championships after the Org-Jake Invitational**

tinues, the Track and Field teams are proving they have both the talent and determination to compete with the best in the SCC. With standout performances, strong leadership, and the team spirit, the Spartans built a season that was one to remember.

# A Wall of Ceramic College Keepers

by Jack Glaser '26

Walking into Rick Bourdeau's room, students find a variety of sensations. First, the smell of coffee leaking into their sinuses as he has a fresh cup brewing. Next, the sight of hundreds of college-themed mugs lining the walls of room 221, creating special scenery for Amity Regional High School seniors.

Before the mugs found their way into Bourdeau's hands, he worked for another organization to develop surveys for various statistical purposes. Bourdeau said that he wanted to do something more productive for society and to give back. With the support from his family, he decided to become a teacher.

In his first few years of teaching, not all of his classes were senior level for Bourdeau as they are now. He taught some LE Psychology classes but mainly World History for freshmen. In 2017, he switched to teaching all Psychology classes, including LE and AP.

Bourdeau said he has been keeping college mugs for almost 10 years. "[My students] asked if they could get me an end of the year gift," Bourdeau said. "So I told them that they could get me a mug." Once he received his first one, it became a tra-

dition for seniors to get him a mug to represent where they were going for college or secondary school.

When asked about his favorite mug, his response was simple. His daughter's. For Bourdeau, it was ap-

parent that the most important mug in his collection was his daughter Gabrielle's Wake Forest mug, given to him when she graduated from Amity in 2018. After all, it was the only one that he brought home.

Senior Steven Weng, one of Bourdeau's current students, said, "When I walk into the room, I see a different coffee mug that Mr. Bourdeau is drinking out of. It leaves me on my heels to see what mug he will be drinking out of today."

The surprise of seeing what mug will be next keeps students engaged and in-touch with their peers' plans for secondary schooling.

The best part is not necessarily about finding out about each other's plans, however.

Another one of Bourdeau's students, Bryan Lin '26, said, "I am going to give him my University of Rochester mug soon. I feel like the mug will make me feel seen and represented even when I'm

not here anymore."

Lin described it as a very special feeling too, as he felt seen and heard when he noticed Bourdeau drinking from the mug that Lin gave him. He said, "It felt like it will be more than just a mug, but a way to remember me and my class in the coming years."

It's not only the students who benefit from his mug collection. Bourdeau says, "I love how my mug collection has grown. It is a constant reminder to me how much good I have done over the years, especially on the days I don't think I am doing that good a job."

It's not necessarily a benefit for just the students and it shows that he is doing a great job despite his thoughts at times. It acts as a support and a reinforcement that he is very well liked by all of his students.

For him, the red, blue, yellow, orange, green, or white mugs represent his students and how Bourdeau remembers them. He says that he often picks his mugs and sees the name and the school on it. It helps Bourdeau remember his students but also how much he impacted them.

Nonetheless, he won't be a teacher forever, so his plan for the mugs is already set. He said that he would give his mugs to other teachers when he retires, and that he would give them out to make sure that every student's memories live on.



Photo contributed by Teesha Godawat '27  
**Rick Bourdeau stands in his classroom surrounded by his collection of college coffee mugs**

## From the Ground Up Gunnar Poulimas and Grateful Seed

by Lena Neary '26

Most students know Gunnar Poulimas as a beloved gym teacher and boys volleyball coach. But outside of school, he is working on and running Grateful Seed, his coffee truck business. What started as just an idea has become a growing and passionate business.

For Poulimas, the dream of owning a business started long before his idea for a coffee truck. "Since high school, I always wanted to own a business of some sort," he explains. In 2024, that dream became reality.

"It came to me to do something on a smaller scale, and I started researching trailers for sale." Coffee specially stood out because it was something Poulimas started to grow fond of. "I started drinking coffee about two years ago," he shared. "Right now, there's such a demand and good market for it." His vision started to come to life.

Like any business, building Grateful Seed from the ground up was not easy. It began with finding the name, then months of searching for a trailer. "I messaged ninety-two Facebook marketplace dealers when looking for a trailer," he shares, "I ended up with just an empty cargo trailer."

After buying the trailer, he spent just under a year doing the physical part and transforming the empty trailer into a stable, aesthetic place for business. At the

same time, Poulimas was teaching himself about business and coffee through the internet, YouTube, and reaching out to other successful coffee truck businesses in Connecticut.

Like many other business owners, Poulimas had his doubts at first. When asked what his biggest fear was, he simply stated, "What if it doesn't work out?"

"To push past that, I just kept telling myself 'there's no better time than now,'" He said hopefully. "I'm going to learn no matter what happens."

This positive attitude was extremely helpful to get him through the harsh challenges he would face. Poulimas shared that this past winter, he was rejected by the health department three separate times, as well as the trailer's pipes freezing and a broken filter, which were caused by lack of maintenance. "The winter threw a lot of unexpected curve balls," he explained.

Instead of taking this as a sign to give up, Poulimas made it a learning experience by taking better care of the truck during the cooler months, and kept pushing towards his dream.

Poulimas believes what makes Grateful Seed unique is the overall quality of his product. "The coffee beans are roasted the week before and grinded on sight," he said. "They're much fresher than most franchises."

But even more important to him is the personal connection he has with his customers. "I try to emphasize customer and provider

relationships. I like making good conversations," Poulimas adds. "I try to enjoy the rush. I think now, everyone likes quick food, but taking time to have a good conversation and get your coffee makes a really big difference."

This focus on connection and conversation is noticed by customers as well. Mia Quoka '26 visited the truck around Christmas time with her mom. "It was really exciting to go and support," she recalls. She even added that she doesn't really like coffee that much, but she still enjoyed the experience overall. "I feel like it's more the message and the person that makes the experience."

Poulimas also keeps his menu simple and basic. "I focus on only a few flavors, but high quality," he adds, noting proudly that, "Cold brew is my best seller and my best product." He does admit that one of his most creative products is the "Daydream", which is a cold brew with vanilla and blackberry flavoring.

Looking ahead, Poulimas is hopeful for the future of Grateful Seed. He is moving to Long Island next year wife. "I'm hopeful; there's a bigger market for things over there like coffee trucks," He adds, "I'm looking to do more events, especially during the nicer seasons."

Through Grateful Seed, Poulimas shows that business owning is more than just selling coffee. It's about learning business skills, building relationships, and creating something meaningful "from the ground up."

**Woodbridge Running Co.**

- Your LOCAL running store
- Carrying a full line of running shoes, clothing & accessories
- Trained staff that cares about your running!
- EVERYBODY NEEDS RUNNING SHOES!

[www.woodbridgerunningcompany.com](http://www.woodbridgerunningcompany.com)

7 Landin Street  
Woodbridge, CT 06525  
203-387-8704

HOURS: Mon-Sat 10am-6pm  
Sun 12pm-4pm

**HAVE A GREAT**  
*Summer*

# THE AMITY TRIDENT

LXXVI-No. 8

Amity Regional High School

Woodbridge, CT 06525

June 4, 2026

## Notes of Gratitude Teachers Celebrated during Annual Appreciation Week

by Adelina Ahmed '27

As everyone begins to close the chapter on the 2025-2026 school year, there is an integral part of the community that deserves recognition for all they do. During the first week of May, Amity, along with the rest of the nation, celebrates Teacher Appreciation Week.

This is a time dedicated to the absolutely wonderful faculty members who display the ultimate form of generosity by sharing their knowledge with students and, in turn, contributing to the future.

For the weeks leading up to this celebration (courtesy of Student Government), students had the opportunity to handwrite thank you notes for teachers who have greatly impacted both their academic careers and personal lives.

Tony Zhang '26, president of Student Government and organizer of the event, noted, "It's always heartwarming to see the reactions on teachers' faces when we give them their cards. For me, I'm especially thankful to the handful of teachers who have made my experience at Amity so amazing. They are what I'll remember when I think of Amity."



Photo contributed by Abby Zamir '27

It is difficult to put into words just how impactful these teachers have been on the lives of Amity students. They are not only educators, but also role models, mentors, and support systems.

Reflecting on her experience, Julia Nickle '27 wrote in her note to a teacher: "Your energy and positive, humorous attitude in the classroom makes learning so fun and engaging. Thank you so much for everything that you do and for

always being an inspiring and supportive teacher who puts a smile on my face."

To further extend gratitude, Amity's PTSO organized a breakfast filled with treats for teachers during the week. While sustenance and words of kindness can never truly repay the priceless impact the faculty has had on students, we want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the incredible teachers at Amity.

They continuously put their all into providing us with the skills we need to become our best selves.

When asked what inspired her to become a teacher, Allyson Wuerth, a longtime AP Literature and English teacher, shared, "I wanted to share my love of literature and poetry with high school students. I also have the best students a teacher could ask for."

## STEAM Day Success



Photo contributed by Evan Lennon '27

**Fifth graders create paper flowers sat the table run by La Amistad, Amity's chapter of the National Spanish Honor Society, at one of the stations set up for the annual event known as STEAM Day.**

On Thursday, May 28th, fifth graders from Bethany, Woodbridge, and Orange came together here at Amity to indulge in STEAM Day, an interactive experience for young students to learn more about how Amity High School promotes STEAM fields across all subjects and classes.

At the table pictured above, students made marigold flowers out of tissue paper to represent the flower of the Day of the Dead, a culturally significant holiday in Spanish speaking countries. This table represented the intersection between art and language, helping the fifth graders to preview a future in the Spanish community.

Junior Megan Rojee was one of many students working at the

event. "It was amazing to see how interested the students were in Spanish culture," she said. "I really enjoyed running the table and the opportunity to inspire the fifth graders to continue studying Spanish in high school."

Additionally, high school groups such as AP Environmental Science and Marine Biology set up tables exploring the science of seed planting and ocean ecosystems, respectively. The younger students left with many new creations like clay seed balls for planting, ocean themed slime, and sticker mosaics.

Overall, the Amity High School Students and elementary school students alike enjoyed a day full of fun and a renewed appreciation for the STEAM field.

## AP Literature Teacher Retires Mrs. Chevan Leaves Lasting Impact on Students

by Sophia Tashlein '27

After almost three decades of teaching English, AP Literature teacher Julie Chevan will retire at the end of this school year, leaving behind a permanent impact on students and fellow colleagues.

Chevan began her teaching career at Amity as a student teacher in 1997, before teaching at Middletown High School, and then returning to Amity in 2001. Since then, she has become an influential presence in the English department, working

as both a teacher and department chair. Over the years, she taught many students how to read more closely and think more critically about the world around them.

In AP Literature especially, Chevan has built a class known for its rigor along with its deep dive into the world of classic texts.

"She's been an incredible teacher, and her passion for literature is so evident," said Abby Zamir '27. "She creates so much meaning through everything she pulls

Continued on page 2

IN THIS  
ISSUE



Library Reno  
News, 2



Student Award  
Arts, 6



Boys Lacrosse  
Sports, 7



Ceramic College Keepers  
Features, 8

# THE AMITY TRIDENT

LXXVI-No. 8

Amity Regional High School

Woodbridge, CT 06525

June 4, 2026

## Notes of Gratitude Teachers Celebrated during Annual Appreciation Week

by Adelina Ahmed '27

As everyone begins to close the chapter on the 2025-2026 school year, there is an integral part of the community that deserves recognition for all they do. During the first week of May, Amity, along with the rest of the nation, celebrates Teacher Appreciation Week.

This is a time dedicated to the absolutely wonderful faculty members who display the ultimate form of generosity by sharing their knowledge with students and, in turn, contributing to the future.

For the weeks leading up to this celebration (courtesy of Student Government), students had the opportunity to handwrite thank you notes for teachers who have greatly impacted both their academic careers and personal lives.

Tony Zhang '26, president of Student Government and organizer of the event, noted, "It's always heartwarming to see the reactions on teachers' faces when we give them their cards. For me, I'm especially thankful to the handful of teachers who have made my experience at Amity so amazing. They are what I'll remember when I think of Amity."



Photo contributed by Abby Zamir '27

It is difficult to put into words just how impactful these teachers have been on the lives of Amity students. They are not only educators, but also role models, mentors, and support systems.

Reflecting on her experience, Julia Nickle '27 wrote in her note to a teacher: "Your energy and positive, humorous attitude in the classroom makes learning so fun and engaging. Thank you so much for everything that you do and for

always being an inspiring and supportive teacher who puts a smile on my face."

To further extend gratitude, Amity's PTSSO organized a breakfast filled with treats for teachers during the week. While sustenance and words of kindness can never truly repay the priceless impact the faculty has had on students, we want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the incredible teachers at Amity.

They continuously put their all into providing us with the skills we need to become our best selves.

When asked what inspired her to become a teacher, Allyson Wuerth, an longtime AP Literature and English teacher, shared, "I wanted to share my love of literature and poetry with high school students. I also have the best students a teacher could ask for."

### Principal's Committee members paint the rock for Teacher's Appreciation Week

This sentiment reflects the passion and dedication that so many teachers bring to their classrooms every day.

Nelson Mandela once said, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world," and the students here are truly able to use their knowledge to better the world because of the immense wisdom given by teachers.

## STEAM Day Success



Photo contributed by Evan Lennon '27

**Fifth graders create paper flowers at the table run by La Amistad, Amity's chapter of the National Spanish Honor Society, at one of the stations set up for the annual event known as STEAM Day.**

On Thursday, May 28th, fifth graders from Bethany, Woodbridge, and Orange came together here at Amity to indulge in STEAM Day, an interactive experience for young students to learn more about how Amity High School promotes STEAM fields across all subjects and classes.

At the table pictured above, students made marigold flowers out of tissue paper to represent the flower of the Day of the Dead, a culturally significant holiday in Spanish speaking countries. This table represented the intersection between art and language, helping the fifth graders to preview a future in the Spanish community.

Junior Megan Rojee was one of many students working at the

event. "It was amazing to see how interested the students were in Spanish culture," she said. "I really enjoyed running the table and the opportunity to inspire the fifth graders to continue studying Spanish in high school."

Additionally, high school groups such as AP Environmental Science and Marine Biology set up tables exploring the science of seed planting and ocean ecosystems, respectively. The younger students left with many new creations like clay seed balls for planting, ocean themed slime, and sticker mosaics.

Overall, the Amity High School Students and elementary school students alike enjoyed a day full of fun and a renewed appreciation for the STEAM field.

## AP Literature Teacher Retires Mrs. Chevan Leaves Lasting Impact on Students

by Sophia Tashlein '27

After almost three decades of teaching English, AP Literature teacher Julie Chevan will retire at the end of this school year, leaving behind a permanent impact on students and fellow colleagues.

Chevan began her teaching career at Amity as a student teacher in 1997, before teaching at Middletown High School, and then returning to Amity in 2001. Since then, she has become an influential presence in the English department, working

as both a teacher and department chair. Over the years, she taught many students how to read more closely and think more critically about the world around them.

In AP Literature especially, Chevan has built a class known for its rigor along with its deep dive into the world of classic texts.

"She's been an incredible teacher, and her passion for literature is so evident," said Abby Zamir '27. "She creates so much meaning through everything she pulls

Continued on page 2

IN THIS  
ISSUE



Library Reno  
News, 2



Student Award  
Arts, 6



Boys Lacrosse  
Sports, 7



Ceramic College Keepers  
Features, 8

# THE AMITY TRIDENT

LXXVI-No. 8

Amity Regional High School

Woodbridge, CT 06525

June 4, 2026

## Notes of Gratitude

### Teachers Celebrated during Annual Appreciation Week

by Adelina Ahmed '27

As everyone begins to close the chapter on the 2025-2026 school year, there is an integral part of the community that deserves recognition for all they do. During the first week of May, Amity, along with the rest of the nation, celebrates Teacher Appreciation Week.

This is a time dedicated to the absolutely wonderful faculty members who display the ultimate form of generosity by sharing their knowledge with students and, in turn, contributing to the future.

For the weeks leading up to this celebration (courtesy of Student Government), students had the opportunity to handwrite thank you notes for teachers who have greatly impacted both their academic careers and personal lives.

Tony Zhang '26, president of Student Government and organizer of the event, noted, "It's always heartwarming to see the reactions on teachers' faces when we give them their cards. For me, I'm especially thankful to the handful of teachers who have made my experience at Amity so amazing. They are what I'll remember when I think of Amity."



Photo contributed by Abby Zamir '27

It is difficult to put into words just how impactful these teachers have been on the lives of Amity students. They are not only educators, but also role models, mentors, and support systems.

Reflecting on her experience, Julia Nickle '27 wrote in her note to a teacher: "Your energy and positive, humorous attitude in the classroom makes learning so fun and engaging. Thank you so much for everything that you do and for

always being an inspiring and supportive teacher who puts a smile on my face."

To further extend gratitude, Amity's PTSSO organized a breakfast filled with treats for teachers during the week. While sustenance and words of kindness can never truly repay the priceless impact the faculty has had on students, we want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the incredible teachers at Amity.

They continuously put their all into providing us with the skills we need to become our best selves.

When asked what inspired her to become a teacher, Allyson Wuerth, a longtime AP Literature and English teacher, shared, "I wanted to share my love of literature and poetry with high school students. I also have the best students a teacher could ask for."

This sentiment reflects the passion and dedication that so many teachers bring to their classrooms every day.

Nelson Mandela once said, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world," and the students here are truly able to use their knowledge to better the world because of the immense wisdom given by teachers.

### STEAM Day Success



Photo contributed by Evan Lennon '27

Fifth graders create paper flowers sat the table run by La Amistad, Amity's chapter of the National Spanish Honor Society, at one of the stations set up for the annual event known as STEAM Day.

On Thursday, May 28th, fifth graders from Bethany, Woodbridge, and Orange came together here at Amity to indulge in STEAM Day, an interactive experience for young students to learn more about how Amity High School promotes STEAM fields across all subjects and classes.

At the table pictured above, students made marigold flowers out of tissue paper to represent the flower of the Day of the Dead, a culturally significant holiday in Spanish speaking countries. This table represented the intersection between art and language, helping the fifth graders to preview a future in the Spanish community.

Junior Megan Rojee was one of many students working at the

event. "It was amazing to see how interested the students were in Spanish culture," she said. "I really enjoyed running the table and the opportunity to inspire the fifth graders to continue studying Spanish in high school."

Additionally, high school groups such as AP Environmental Science and Marine Biology set up tables exploring the science of seed planting and ocean ecosystems, respectively. The younger students left with many new creations like clay seed balls for planting, ocean themed slime, and sticker mosaics.

Overall, the Amity High School Students and elementary school students alike enjoyed a day full of fun and a renewed appreciation for the STEAM field.

### AP Literature Teacher Retires Mrs. Chevan Leaves Lasting Impact on Students

by Sophia Tashlein '27

After almost three decades of teaching English, AP Literature teacher Julie Chevan will retire at the end of this school year, leaving behind a permanent impact on students and fellow colleagues.

Chevan began her teaching career at Amity as a student teacher in 1997, before teaching at Middletown High School, and then returning to Amity in 2001. Since then, she has become an influential presence in the English department, working

as both a teacher and department chair. Over the years, she taught many students how to read more closely and think more critically about the world around them.

In AP Literature especially, Chevan has built a class known for its rigor along with its deep dive into the world of classic texts.

"She's been an incredible teacher, and her passion for literature is so evident," said Abby Zamir '27. "She creates so much meaning through everything she pulls

Continued on page 2

## IN THIS ISSUE



Library Reno News, 2



Student Award Arts, 6



Boys Lacrosse Sports, 7



Ceramic College Keepers Features, 8

# THE AMITY TRIDENT

LXXVI-No. 8

Amity Regional High School

Woodbridge, CT 06525

June 4, 2026

## Notes of Gratitude

### Teachers Celebrated during Annual Appreciation Week

by Adelina Ahmed '27

As everyone begins to close the chapter on the 2025-2026 school year, there is an integral part of the community that deserves recognition for all they do. During the first week of May, Amity, along with the rest of the nation, celebrates Teacher Appreciation Week.

This is a time dedicated to the absolutely wonderful faculty members who display the ultimate form of generosity by sharing their knowledge with students and, in turn, contributing to the future.

For the weeks leading up to this celebration (courtesy of Student Government), students had the opportunity to handwrite thank you notes for teachers who have greatly impacted both their academic careers and personal lives.

Tony Zhang '26, president of Student Government and organizer of the event, noted, "It's always heartwarming to see the reactions on teachers' faces when we give them their cards. For me, I'm especially thankful to the handful of teachers who have made my experience at Amity so amazing. They are what I'll remember when I think of Amity."



Photo contributed by Abby Zamir '27

It is difficult to put into words just how impactful

#### Principal's Committee members paint the rock for Teacher's Appreciation Week

these teachers have been on the lives of Amity students. They are not only educators, but also role models, mentors, and support systems.

Reflecting on her experience, Julia Nickle '27 wrote in her note to a teacher: "Your energy and positive, humorous attitude in the classroom makes learning so fun and engaging. Thank you so much for everything that you do and for

always being an inspiring and supportive teacher who puts a smile on my face."

To further extend gratitude, Amity's PTSSO organized a breakfast filled with treats for teachers during the week. While sustenance and words of kindness can never truly repay the priceless impact the faculty has had on students, we want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the incredible teachers at Amity.

They continuously put their all into providing us with the skills we need to become our best selves.

When asked what inspired her to become a teacher, Allyson Wuerth, a longtime AP Literature and English teacher, shared, "I wanted to share my love of literature and poetry with high school students. I also have the best students a teacher could ask for."

This sentiment reflects the passion and dedication that so many teachers bring to their classrooms every day.

Nelson Mandela once said, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world," and the students here are truly able to use their knowledge to better the world because of the immense wisdom given by teachers.

## STEAM Day Success



Photo contributed by Evan Lennon '27

### Fifth graders create paper flowers at the table run by La Amistad, Amity's chapter of the National Spanish Honor Society, at one of the stations set up for the annual event known as STEAM Day.

On Thursday, May 28th, fifth graders from Bethany, Woodbridge, and Orange came together here at Amity to indulge in STEAM Day, an interactive experience for young students to learn more about how Amity High School promotes STEAM fields across all subjects and classes.

At the table pictured above, students made marigold flowers out of tissue paper to represent the flower of the Day of the Dead, a culturally significant holiday in Spanish speaking countries. This table represented the intersection between art and language, helping the fifth graders to preview a future in the Spanish community.

Junior Megan Rojee was one of many students working at the

event. "It was amazing to see how interested the students were in Spanish culture," she said. "I really enjoyed running the table and the opportunity to inspire the fifth graders to continue studying Spanish in high school."

Additionally, high school groups such as AP Environmental Science and Marine Biology set up tables exploring the science of seed planting and ocean ecosystems, respectively. The younger students left with many new creations like clay seed balls for planting, ocean themed slime, and sticker mosaics.

Overall, the Amity High School Students and elementary school students alike enjoyed a day full of fun and a renewed appreciation for the STEAM field.

## AP Literature Teacher Retires

### Mrs. Chevan Leaves Lasting Impact on Students

by Sophia Tashlein '27

After almost three decades of teaching English, AP Literature teacher Julie Chevan will retire at the end of this school year, leaving behind a permanent impact on students and fellow colleagues.

Chevan began her teaching career at Amity as a student teacher in 1997, before teaching at Middletown High School, and then returning to Amity in 2001. Since then, she has become an influential presence in the English department, working

as both a teacher and department chair. Over the years, she taught many students how to read more closely and think more critically about the world around them.

In AP Literature especially, Chevan has built a class known for its rigor along with its deep dive into the world of classic texts.

"She's been an incredible teacher, and her passion for literature is so evident," said Abby Zamir '27. "She creates so much meaning through everything she pulls

Continued on page 2

## IN THIS ISSUE



Library Reno  
News, 2



Student Award  
Arts, 6



Boys Lacrosse  
Sports, 7



Ceramic College Keepers  
Features, 8